

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical switch film between at least two plates and having an electrical bias between the at least two plates, wherein the optical switching film comprises: a porous film having randomly located pores throughout all of the porous film.
2. (Original) The optical switching film claimed in claim 1, wherein the porous film includes microvoids formed in the porous film, such that the microvoids are continuous airspaces from a surface of the porous film to an opposing surface of the porous film.
3. (Original) The optical switching film claimed in claim 1, wherein the optical switching film has minimal pressure differential in a region of space between the porous film and the at least two plates.
4. (Original) The optical switching film claimed in claim 1, wherein the optical switching film operates as a switch at less than 100 volts.
5. (Original) The optical switching film claimed in claim 1, wherein porosity of the porous film is controlled by forming microvoids according to phase inversion in the porous film.
6. (Original) The optical switching film claimed in claim 2, wherein forming the microvoids in the porous film is selected from the group consisting of phase inversion, bubble nucleation, track etching, stretched polymers, laser-drilling, and coating over a textured carrier substrate having protrusions thereupon the textured carrier substrate.
7. (Original) The optical switching film claimed in claim 1, wherein the porous film is near ambient pressure of 760 Torr.

Claims 8-11 are canceled.

12. (Currently Amended) An optical device, comprising:

a) a multi-layered composite film of polymeric resins having randomly located pores throughout all of the multi-layered composite film and whose multiple layers are formed simultaneously and coated simultaneously on a carrier substrate, wherein the multi-layered composite film includes at least one electrically conductive layer; and

b) at least two plates having the multi-layered composite film between the at least two plates such that an optical switch is provided for the optical device.

13. (Original) The optical device claimed in claim 12, wherein the multi-layered composite film is formed on a releasable carrier substrate.

Claims 14 – 31, 34, 36-37 are canceled.

32. (Original) The optical switching film claimed in claim 1, wherein light transmission via the porous film is greater than 50% of non-porous optical switch films.

33. (Currently Amended) The optical switching film claimed in claim 1, wherein light transmission of the porous film is greater than 50% of non-porous optical switch films.

35. (Currently Amended) The optical device claimed in claim 12, wherein light transmission of the multi-layered composite film is greater than 50% of non-porous optical switch films.

38. (Currently Amended) A method for fabricating an optical device, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a carrier substrate;
- b) coating a releasable porous film having randomly located pores throughout all of the releasable porous film onto the carrier substrate;
- c) coating an electrically conductive layer onto the releasable porous film at the same time as the releasable porous film is coated onto the carrier substrate; and
- d) assembling the releasable porous film between at least two electrically biased plates such that an optical switch is constructed for the optical device.